NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS REPORT

8697

REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TO COLOMBIA, S. A.
TO
CONDUCT A SEMINAR AND ASSIST IN THE
DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS FOR TEXTILES

May 8 - 21, 1965

By

Dr. Herbert F. Schiefer
Consultant on Textiles
National Bureau of Standards

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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* NBS Group, Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics at the University of Colorado.
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NBS PROJECT 4000402

June 2, 1965

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Approved for public release by the director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on October 9, 2015

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1. ABSTRACT

This report summarizes the activities and attainments of the Textile Seminar held in Medellin, Colombia, S. A., and contains recommendations for implementing the standardization programs for textiles that were initiated at this seminar.

2. SPONSORS

The Textile Seminar in Medellin, Colombia, was sponsored and organized by ICONTEC, Instituto Colombia De Normas Tecnicas, with the cooperation of AID, Agency for International Development, as part of the technical assistance program in Colombia, in collaboration with INCOLDA, Instituto Colombiano De Administracion, who made available their excellent conference room and other facilities in Medellin. NBS, National Bureau of Standards, granted not only generous time for attendance at this seminar, but also provided important material for use during the seminar. The contributions and generosities of all these agencies are gratefully acknowledged and appreciated. The interest and technical contributions of the participants at the seminar, and of their companies, were not only appreciated but provided the very foundation so essential to the success of the seminar.

Finally, the stimulating discussions with mill management and their technical staff during visits to textile plants and laboratories in the afternoons, and the informal discussion with individuals in the evenings, contributed immeasurably to the ultimate attainments of the seminar. The willingness of Colombia Textil to publish a resume of the accomplishments of the seminar and to widely disseminate this information is especially noteworthy, and provides a most valuable service to the Textile Industry of Colombia, and also to ICONTEC. Colombia Textil is the official publication of ACOLTEX, Asociacion Colombiana De Tecnicos En Acadados Textiles. The excellent programs which ACOLTEX has sponsored for a number of years are very closely related to the textile standardization activities initiated at the seminar and it is thus absolutely essential that these programs be coordinated and sponsored jointly for the mutual benefit of all segments of the producers, distributors, and consumers of textiles in Colombia.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the four subcommittees of ICONTEC Technical Committee C-15 on Textiles meet at least one day each month to implement and coordinate the vast programs of both COPANT Technical Committee C-6 on Textiles and also ISO Technical Committee TC-38 on Textiles. To function efficiently in these respects it is imperative that ICONTEC not only obtains, but also promptly distributes to the members of Committee C-15, all COPANT and ISO documents concerned with textiles. Many of these documents require the formulation of a technical recommendation to ICONTEC that represents the consensus of all segments of the Colombian textile producing, consuming, and general interest fields. This activity will not only provide an essential function of ICONTEC in COPANT and ISO participation, but more importantly it will stimulate the attainment of Colombian textile standards of higher excellence and enhance their wider application and recognition.

It is also recommended that a great effort be made by the leaders and staff members of ICONTEC, INCOLDA, ACOLTEX and of the Textile Industry to support and coordinate this work on textile standardization in a most cooperative spirit to assure mutual benefits for all.

Finally, it is recommended that the continued interest and support of AID in Bogota and the U. S. Consultate in Medellin be not only solicited by the members of ICONTEC Technical Committee C-15 on Textiles, but that all possible assistance be generously given for the attainment of the objectives of ICONTEC Technical Committee C-15 on Textiles.

4. INTRODUCTION

The needs for standardization activities on textiles in Colombia and in Latin American countries were outlined in NBS Report 7585, August 6, 1962 by the author in his report on international travel to Latin America. Implementation of these activities and the phenomenal attainments under COPANT Technical Committee C-6 on Textiles are summarized in NBS Report 7770, December 19, 1962; NBS Report 8196, February 26, 1964; and in NBS Report 8645, February 23, 1965. Unfortunately Colombia was not in a position to actively participate in the COPANT standardization programs for textile until ICONTEC had been organized. However, recently ICONTEC obtained official membership in both COPANT and ISO, and it is now imperative that Colombia actively participate in these programs. The recent ICONTEC seminars, including the Textile Seminar in Medellin, were held to assist and implement this participation of Colombia. The primary objectives of the Textile Seminar were to emphasize the importance of this activity in Colombia, to indicate the need of a Textile Technical Committee to function as an advisory group to ICONTEC, and to help organize this Technical Advisory Committee and its appropriate Subcommittees to deal with specific areas of standardization for textiles.

5. TEXTILE SEMINAR

The Textile Seminar opened at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, May 10, 1965, in the conference room of INCOLDA, Medellin, Colombia. Fourteen individuals, primarily textile engineers, chemists, and technologists from the textile mills of Medellin were present to participate in the discussions of the six four-hour sessions scheduled in the mornings during the entire week. A fifteenth participant from Bogota joined this group on the second day. The afternoons provided opportunity to visit textile mills and laboratories in the Medellin area and to discuss the many aspects of standardization for textiles with key personnel. The evenings provided opportunities for more informal discussions with individuals and much pertinent information was gained to guide the future seminar sessions and the organization of the ICONTEC Technical Advisory Committee C-15 on Textiles. Upon specific request from Colombia Textil, a summary of the work of the textile seminar was submitted for publication in an early issue of this journal. This summary is given in the appendix of this report. It was felt that publication of this summary in Colombia Textil would not only disseminate essential information concerning this activity widely among the textile community, but also to help promote their participation and to solocit their full support.

The period from May 17 - 20, inclusive, was used in Bogota to report on the activities of the Textile Seminar in Medellin to ICONTEC, AID, and other Colombian officials concerned with this program and to explore means for implementing the Textile Standardization programs.

6. APPENDIX

Textile Seminar at Medellin May 10 - 15, 1965

Directed by Dr. Herbert F. Schiefer
National Bureau of Standards
Washington, D. C.

The Textile Seminar for the promotion and development of standards for textiles was organized by ICONTEC, Instituto Colombia de Normas Tecnicas, as part of the technical assistance program of AID, Agency for International Development, in collaboration with INCOLDA, Instituto Colombia de Administration. The textile seminars were held in the excellent conference room of INCOLDA at Medellin and their other facilities were also made available for more informal discussions. All of these facilities contributed to the success of the meetings and attainments at this textile seminar.

Staff members of ICONTEC provided background information which led to the formation of ICONTEC, and of their role in the promulgation of Colombian standards, as well as participation in the development of COPANT and ISO standards. The rules and regulations of operation of ICONTEC were explained as well as active membership in ICONTEC. Because of severe staff limitation of ICONTEC, not only in number but also with regard to technical knowledge in the various fields of science and technology, it was emphasized that a Technical Advisory Committee of ICONTEC for textiles be organized immediately and that this committee become active as soon as possible. The most urgent and important task in the field of textile standardization was the formation of a Technical Committee under ICONTEC. This technical committee must not only cover all areas of the vast complex structure of textiles, but more importantly to enlist into active participation the best technically qualified personnel from all segments of the producing, consuming, and general interest fields of textiles. The attainment of this goal became at once the main objective of the seminar. The various aspects, views and problems, the scope, communication (lack of communication) and many other considerations were discussed freely and sincerely. These discussions were also

held in the plants and laboratories and with management. They were in the end most fruitful and satisfying. The initial hopes and expectations were not only attained, but greatly exceeded even the most optimistic hopes and expectations.

Although only 14 individuals from 10 organizations attended the seminar and the organization of the Technical Committee was founded with these individuals and organizations as the nucleus, it is most gratifying that since the committee was organized, 10 additional individuals from 5 additional organizations have become affiliated with this Technical Committee. This growth and representation is very encouraging and assures that the committee will not only be active, but successful. The committee organization and membership as of May 15 is given below:

ICONTEC TECHNICAL COMMITTEE C 15 ON TEXTILES

Chairman	Diagonal	Hugo Palacio
Vice Chairman	Celanese	Benjamin Bilbao
Secretary	Pantex	Blanco Molina

Subcommittee C 15.1 on Fibers

Chairman	Fabricato	Santiago Toro
	Sena	Francisco Restrepo
	Pantex	Blanco Molina
	Diagonal	Hugo Palacio
	Tejicondor	Alberto Patino
	IFA	Mario Londono
	Celanese	Benjamin Bilbao
	Coltejer	Efrain Uribe
	Leticia	Cesar Manevitch
	Vicuna	Mario Beut

Subcommittee C 15.2 on Yarns

Chairman	Satexco	Jacques Barbazan
	Sena	Carlos Molina
	Fatelares	Henry Campuzano
	Fatelares	Hernan Botero
	Pantex	Emilio Agudelo
	Fabricato	Santiago Toro
	Diagonal	Hugo Palacio
	Tejicondor	Alberto Patino
	Coltejer	Jorge Echeverri
	Vicuna	Ivan Amaya

Subcommittee C 15.3 on Fabrics

Chairman	Coltejer	Jorge Echeverri
	Sena	Carlos Molina
	Sena	Francisco Restrepo
	Pantex	Emilio Agudelo
	Fatelares	Hernan Botero
	Fabricato	Santiago Toro
	Fabricato	Octavio Duque
	Fabricato	Antonio Calad
	Leonisa	Jairo Velasques
	Vanleentex	Edwin Villegas
	Vicuna	Frank Dyson

Subcommittee C 15.4 on Color Fastness

Chairman	Pantex	Blanco Molina
	Fabricato	Octavio Duque
	Celanese	Benjamin Bilbao
	Coltejer	Jorge Mario Duque
	Coltejer	Rodrigo Munera
	Vicuna	Mario Beut
	Acoltex	Bernardo Cano

It is obvious and apparent from the organizations represented on ICONTEC Technical Committee C 15 and the highly competent persons that represent these organizations that the areas of work of the four subcommittees will be at the very highest level of competence. It is also understandable that the representation of this time must be considered temporary and incomplete. This representation will enlarge rapidly and that is as it should be.

The textile industry is a dynamic and growing industry. The Committee C 15 activities will be equally dynamic and growing. It is equally understandable that owing to unforeseen circumstances some individuals may have to withdraw from active participation in Committee C 15, because additional responsibilities and other assignments place undue burdens upon them. This withdrawal is, of course, regrettable but great success in their new duties and responsibilities is the sincere wish of Committee C 15 with the full belief that their replacements will be equally competent so that the work of Committee C 15 can continue and expand without interruption.

There are many more aspects of the textile seminar which made it such a memorable one. In comparison to the foregoing, a full discussion of these various aspects would provide a mere anticlimax, and this should be avoided. Suffice it, therefore, to note in conclusion that the participants to the siminar had an opportunity to examine at first hand over 40 documents concerned with COPANT and ISO Textile Standardization activities and procedures. These documents were provided by special messenger from ICONTEC in Bogota upon the unanimous request from the participants to the seminar. This opportunity to study these documents was much appreciated and several individuals expressed their willingness to serve as delegates to the June 1965 meeting of ISO Technical Committee 38 on Textiles. This meeting will be held in London, England, from June 21 to June 25. It is hoped that ICONTEC can officially certify them for attendance at this meeting.

The closing session of the Textile Seminar on May 15 was an especially happy one which the members to the seminar will remember for many years. A number of reports and several books were given to the Chairman of ICONTEC Technical Committee C 15 for the use by any member of this Committee. To dramatize and emphasize that in all matters the views of any contributor must be considered and heard, be he rich or poor, old or young, influential or humble, and that having heard and considered all views and contributions that a consensus must be attained, a recommendation for action must be written, and an effort must be made to translate the recommendation into official promulgation. The seeds for these attainments have been sown and the young plants must now be fed and nutured to full maturity and an abundant crop harvested. These accomplishments are the sincere wishes of all the dedicated, friendly and willing members who participated in the Textile Seminar of May 1965 in Medellin.

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